Duke, Daphne 276711

From: Sent: Cummings, Bill <br/>bcumming@kcc.com><br/>Thursday, June 21, 2018 4:12 PM

To: Cc: Boyd, Jocelyn Duke, Daphne

Subject:

Docket No. 2017-381-A, SCEUC letter supporting Office of Regulatory Staff position

Attachments:

SCEUC Letter on Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.pdf

Good afternoon, Ms. Boyd.

South Carolina Energy Users Committee (SCEUC), large industrial manufacturers with plants in South Carolina, supports the position of the Office of Regulatory Staff to require utility companies to report the impact of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Further, SCEUC members want to see South Carolina ratepayers benefit from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act through refunds and rate reductions from utility companies in 2018.

Please see my attached letter stating the position of SCEUC.

Sincerely,

Bill Cummings Chairman, South Carolina Energy Users Committee

Sr. Energy Supply Leader Kimberly-Clark Corporation

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"The Voice of Industry before the Public Service Commission"

June 21, 2018

Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire Chief Clerk & Administrator Public Service Commission of South Carolina 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100 Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Office of Regulatory Staff's Petition for an Order Requiring Utilities to Report the Impact of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

Docket No. 2017-381-A

Dear Ms. Boyd:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the South Carolina Energy Users Committee ("SCEUC") to support the position of the Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") in the above referenced docket. The issue currently before you concerning the benefits of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("Tax Act") is very important to SCEUC member industrial companies as they compete for business regionally and nationally.

SCEUC urges the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") to reaffirm the effective date of January 1, 2018, established in Commission Order No. 2018-308, as the date from which public utilities in South Carolina should track and defer the effects resulting from the Tax Act into a regulatory liability account. While this action alone would be a significant benefit to all energy users in South Carolina, we would additionally ask the Commission to definitively rule on South Carolina ratepayers' right to receive these benefits in 2018. Industrial customers in Georgia on the Georgia Power system will be receiving the benefit of the Tax Act later this year in the form of refunds from Georgia Power. As many of SCEUC mills and plants compete for capital and jobs with those Georgia Power customers, this disparity in tax treatments currently is a disadvantage for us.

We concur with ORS's request that the utilities identified by the Commission in Order No. 2018-308 should be required to immediately report their estimated savings under the Tax Act to the you and ORS. We further believe that it is reasonable for these utilities to be ordered

Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire Chief Clerk & Administrator Public Service Commission of South Carolina June 21, 2018 Page 2.

to inform the Commission concerning when and how that utility proposes to return their windfall under the Tax Act to ratepayers and to file revised tariffs incorporating these savings.

High utility rates are a financial burden on all South Carolina citizens and hinder SCEUC members' ability to operate competitively in this State. SCEUC believes that it is vital to South Carolina's economy that the tax savings produced by the reduction in the federal corporate income tax rate be provided to ratepayers as quickly as possible.

Yours Truly,

William Cummings

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Chairman, South Carolina Energy Users Committee

BC/lbk